

MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News Items; Letters; Special Articles; Twenty-Five Years Ago column; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for the News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings.

California Medical Association, Hotel Del Monte, Del Monte, California, May, 1941. (Exact date not decided.)

Western Section of the American Urological Association, Empress Hotel, Victoria, B. C., July 29-31, 1940. Dudley P. Fagerstrom, M.D., Secretary, 710 Medico-Dental Building, San Jose, California.

Medical Broadcasts.*

American Medical Association Broadcasts: "Medicine in the News."—The American Medical Association and the National Broadcasting Company have announced "Medicine in the News," on timely topics from medical news of the week. Thursdays, 4:30 p. m., Eastern standard time (1:30 p. m., Pacific standard time), Blue Network, coast to coast. Thirty weeks. Opened on November 2, 1939. Facts, drama, entertainment, music.

Pacific States:

KECA	Los Angeles	KTMS	Santa Barbara
KFSD	San Diego	KEX	Portland
KGO	San Francisco	KJR	Seattle
	KGA	Spokane	

Los Angeles County Medical Association.

The radio broadcast program for the Los Angeles County Medical Association for the month of July is as follows:

Wednesday, July 3—KECA, 11:15 a. m., *The Road of Health*.
 Saturday, July 6—KFI, 9:45 a. m., *The Road of Health*;
 KFAC, 10:15 a. m., *Your Doctor and You*.
 Wednesday, July 10—KECA, 11:15 a. m., *The Road of Health*.
 Saturday, July 13—KFI, 9:45 a. m., *The Road of Health*;
 KFAC, 10:15 a. m., *Your Doctor and You*.
 Wednesday, July 17—KECA, 11:15 a. m., *The Road of Health*.
 Saturday, July 20—KFI, 9:45 a. m., *The Road of Health*;
 KFAC, 10:15 a. m., *Your Doctor and You*.
 Wednesday, July 24—KECA, 11:15 a. m., *The Road of Health*.
 Saturday, July 27—KFI, 9:45 a. m., *The Road of Health*;
 KFAC, 10:15 a. m., *Your Doctor and You*.
 Wednesday, July 31—KECA, 11:15 a. m., *The Road of Health*.

Census Reports on United States Birth Rates.—The United States birth rate dipped slightly last year after rising in 1937 and 1938, according to preliminary tabulations of the Census Bureau, Department of Commerce.

A total of 2,262,726 births occurred last year, resulting in a birth rate of 17.4 births per each 1,000 estimated population. In 1938, the birth rate was 17.6, based on 2,286,962 births. The rate in 1937 was 17.0.

The preliminary 1939 rate is approximately 5 per cent higher than the lowest birth rate recorded in the history of the birth registration area established by the Census Bureau in 1915. The low point was in 1933, when the rate was 16.5. The rate for California in 1938 was 16.5; in 1939, was 16.8.

* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged (stating station, day, date and hour, and subject) to CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, for inclusion in this column.

University of California Courses to Help Teachers of Hard of Hearing.—Training courses for teachers of the hard of hearing and the deaf will be offered by the Los Angeles Summer Session of the University of California this year, with courses available in speech-reading, directed practice and conservation of speech and hearing, according to Dr. J. Harold Williams, dean of the session.

Information concerning all summer activities on the Los Angeles campus of the University may be secured on request of the Dean of the Summer Session, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles.

Death Rates in the United States.—A slight rise in the United States death rate last year, as compared with 1938, is reported by the United States Bureau of the Census in a preliminary tabulation for 1939.

A total of 1,387,797 deaths last year resulted in a preliminary mortality rate of 10.7 deaths per 1,000 estimated population. In 1938, there were 1,381,391 deaths and the death rate was 10.6. The death rates for 1938 and 1939 were the lowest rates, with the exception of 1933, reported since the death registration area was established in 1900. California's death rate in 1938 was 12.4; in 1939, was 12.5.

American Red Cross: Summer Safety Is Subject of Dramatized Broadcasts.—In an effort to save thousands of lives and prevent tens of thousands of injuries during the next several months, the American Red Cross has arranged a series of eight dramatized radio programs on highway safety, prevention of drownings, and other mishaps. This summer safety series, which will be broadcast under the title of "Listen and Live," will be heard at 12 to 12:15 p. m., Eastern standard time, Sundays, from June 2 through July 21. Each of the programs will be closed with a brief talk by a nationally prominent guest.

The dramatized portion of each broadcast will be prepared under the direction of the First Aid, Life Saving and Accident Prevention Service of the American Red Cross. Each will graphically cover specific methods of avoiding accident and will emphasize what the hearer should do and what he should abstain from doing in case he runs into danger or meets with mishap, either to himself or others.

During the past thirty years this Red Cross service has given instruction in first aid to more than 2,000,000 persons and has taught more than 1,000,000 proper methods of rescuing persons in danger of drowning and reviving those apparently drowned. More recently it has been actively fostering farm and home safety by every possible means. From its extensive experience, vivid incidents will be drawn, incidents that will bring home to the hearer in a telling manner why the mishap in question occurred, how it and similar ones could be avoided and what might be done to relieve the situation. This safety series will be sent out over the Blue Network of the National Broadcasting Company, co-sponsor with the American Red Cross of this unique venture in humanitarianism.

Following is a list of California stations over which the series will be heard:

Blue Coast Group—KGO, San Francisco; KECA, Los Angeles; KTMS, Santa Barbara; KFSD, San Diego.

Medical Laboratory Technicians.—The California Association of Medical Laboratory Technicians announces that it is now composed of eleven county chapters, and that it has its own publication, "The Filter." Its next annual session will be held in San Francisco, September 28-29, 1940. The president of the organization is Mrs. Berenice Stevens, care of Merrit Hospital, Oakland.

Postgraduate Psychiatric Education.—The first regional institute of the American Psychiatric Association was held at Agnew State Hospital, Agnew, California, from June 17 to 29.

Participants in the institute at Agnew State Hospital were Dr. Charles A. Rymer, Assistant Director of the Colorado Psychopathic Hospital; Dr. Spafford Ackerly, Professor of Psychiatry of the University of Louisville, School of Medicine; Dr. Wendel Muncie, Associate Professor of Psychiatry of Johns Hopkins University Medical School; Dr. Walter Treadway, Assistant Surgeon-General, United States Public Health Service; and Dr. J. Kasanin, Chief of Psychiatric Service of Mount Zion Hospital, San Francisco.

Dinner in Honor of Dr. James F. Percy.—A dinner honoring Dr. James F. Percy was given by the French Hospital staff, Los Angeles, April 27, following twelve years of service as its chief and for his constructive work in the interest of the hospital. Doctor Percy was presented with an illuminated scroll, commemorating this service. Dr. Thomas C. Myers, President of the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, who presided, made the presentation address.

Doctor Percy was graduated from the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York City, in 1886. . . .

With the years in practice Doctor Percy has witnessed many worth-while events between the past and the present trends in medicine.

From February to April, 1888, he treated thirty-five children for diphtheria and signed thirty-five death certificates. Every physician in that city (forty-two in number) had a similar experience with his treatment of diphtheria patients—not a single child recovered. Diphtheria antitoxin did not become available for the treatment of the disease until 1894.

About this same time Dr. Ernest Hart, then the brilliant editor of the *British Medical Journal*, toured this country, lecturing to medical men that typhoid fever was a water-borne disease. In 1882, Doctor Percy saw in the old Bellevue Hospital, in the clinic of the then senior physician, Austin Flint, what was said to be the first demonstration of Koch's technique for staining tubercle bacilli. This was an extraordinary event and almost a spiritual experience for everyone who witnessed it. . . .

Among some of the recognitions that have come to honor Doctor Percy were the presidency of the Illinois State Medical Society, 1907; President Tristate (Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri) Medical Association, 1910; a founder member of the American College of Surgeons in 1913; a founder member of the Malignancy Board, Los Angeles County Hospital from 1922 until the present. This was among the first of these boards established in this country for the study and better care of the cancer patients. . . .

Many messages were received from colleagues over the country, among them Doctors Rock Sleyster, President of the American Medical Association; George H. Kress, Secretary of the California Medical Association; Malcolm T. MacEachern, Associate Director of the American College of Surgeons; Morris Fishbein, Editor of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*; Bowman Crowell of the American College of Surgeons; and others.

Examination for Appointment as Commissioned Officers in the Medical Corps of the U. S. Navy.—The next examination for doctors of medicine desiring to enter the Medical Corps of the United States Navy will be held on August 19, 1940, at the following Naval Medical Department activities (Pacific Coast):

U. S. Naval Hospital, San Diego, California; U. S. Naval Hospital, Mare Island, California; U. S. Naval Hospital, Puget Sound, Bremerton, Washington.

Information regarding physical requirements, etc., may be obtained by addressing a letter to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Applications must be completed and received in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery prior to August 1, 1940, in order that authorization may reach the applicant in sufficient time for him to appear for examination on August 19, 1940.

University of California Medical School Offers Mail Library Service.—Establishment of a circulating periodical service for California physicians by the University of California Medical Center, was announced recently by Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, professor of pharmacology and librarian of the Medical School Library.

The University service replaces that previously provided by the State Medical Library. Volumes acquired by the State Library during the period of its operation, 1932-1939, are now on deposit at the University of California at Los Angeles and at the University of California Medical Center, San Francisco.

Rural physicians in California may now obtain books from the Medical Center Library and receive regularly any specialty journals in which they are interested. Service costs to meet mailing expenses are to be borne by the physicians, Doctor Leake said.

School of Nursing Established by State University.—A School of Nursing, replacing the present Training School for Nurses at the Medical Center in San Francisco, is announced by President Robert G. Sproul of the University of California. On July 1, all curricula in nursing and recommendations for degrees and certificates will be placed under the new school; the certificate in public health nursing is recommended by the department of hygiene.

The University, says President Sproul, for a long time has been endeavoring to raise the standards of preparation for nursing and to improve the quality of its instruction. At the close of the three-year course in the School of Nursing, the students will receive a Bachelor of Science degree and will be eligible to become registered nurses. In addition, there also will be offered curricula for graduate nurses leading to the Bachelor of Science degree and to Certificates in Public Health Nursing and Nursing Education.

Medical Center Won't Contract to Buy Bodies.—The University of California Medical Center will not enter into an agreement with any individual to purchase his body after death. This was announced by the Office of the Dean as a result of numerous offers reaching it in the past year. A spokesman for the Dean's Office said he knew of no reputable medical school or research institution in the United States which makes such contracts.

Although California law is not entirely clear on the subject, it is quite possible that a California citizen holds no property right in his body and, therefore, could not legally sell it, the statement said. Even if the law clearly allowed it, however, the Medical School would not enter into contracts to purchase bodies, nor will any other well-established research institution.

"We are deeply sympathetic with people whose dire financial difficulties make them contemplate this action," the Dean's Office announced. "But unfortunately it is not possible for us to help them in the way they desire."

The Pacific Coast Oto-Ophthalmological Society.

The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Oto-Ophthalmological Society was held Monday, June 24, to Thursday, June 27, inclusive, in Spokane, Washington, the Davenport Hotel being the headquarters. The guest speakers were Dr. F. K. Hansel of St. Louis, Dr. Walter B. Lancaster of Boston, and Dr. Meyer Weiner of St. Louis.

Highlights in California State Public Health Organization:

1850-1859:

Dr. Thomas M. Logan arrived in Sacramento to practice medicine. In 1856, together with Dr. E. S. Cooper, he issued call for organization of State Medical Society. Conducted correspondence with medical men and received reports of communicable diseases. As chairman of committee on medical topography of the American Medical Association (organized in 1856) wrote reports on such diseases. California Medical Society went into eclipse in 1860.

1860-1869:

Doctor Logan was practicing in Sacramento, writing on public health subjects for medical journals, active on Sacramento City Board of Health, of which he was secretary.

1870-1879:

State Board of Health established April 15, 1870, with Dr. Henry Gibbons, President, Dr. T. M. Logan, Secretary. Doctor Logan made president of the State Medical Society, reorganized in 1870.

In 1871, Logan, as chairman of committee of the American Medical Association on National Health Council, proposed a National Sanitary Bureau in Federal Government. A member of this committee was appointed from each state. Interest aroused in this proposal led directly to organization of American Public Health Association in 1873. Doctor Logan elected president of the American Medical Association in 1874.

Upon death of Doctor Logan in February, 1876, Dr. F. W. Hatch, Sr., appointed Secretary of State Board of Health.

1880-1889:

Doctor Hatch died in 1884, succeeded by Dr. Gerard G. Tyrrell, who was succeeded in 1891 by Dr. J. R. Laine.

1890-1899:

Doctor Laine succeeded in 1898 by Dr. W. P. Matthews. Rabies first appeared in California in 1899.

1900-1909:

Plague first appeared in United States in 1900, in San Francisco.

- 1902 Dr. N. K. Foster appointed secretary of the Board.
- 1905 Bureau of Vital Statistics established by law.
- 1905 Hygienic Laboratory established.
- 1907 Bureau of Foods and Drugs established.
- 1909 Mosquito and malaria surveys started and local control instituted.
- 1909 Doctor Foster resigned.

1910-1919:

- 1910 Dr. William F. Snow appointed secretary of the Board.
- 1911 State Tuberculosis Commission appointed, Dr. George H. Kress, Chairman.
- 1913 Morbidity reporting began on state-wide basis.
- 1913 Sanitary inspections by State inaugurated.
- 1915 Dr. W. A. Sawyer appointed secretary.
- 1915 Bureau of Tuberculosis established.

- 1915 Bureau of Sanitary Engineering established.
- 1917 Bureau of Venereal Diseases established.
- 1917 Dr. W. H. Kellogg appointed secretary.
- 1918 Influenza pandemic.
- 1919 Bureau of Child Hygiene established.
- 1919 Bubonic plague in Oakland.

1920-1929:

- 1920 Dr. W. M. Dickie appointed secretary.
- 1922 Bureau of Epidemiology established.
- 1922 Botulism from California commercially packed products.
- 1924-25 Plague in Los Angeles.
- 1925 Bureau of Cannery Inspection established.
- 1927 Crippled Child Act passed.
- 1929 State Department of Public Health established under reorganization of state government.

Tenth Meeting of the Biological Photographic Association.

The tenth annual convention of the Biological Photographic Association will be held at the Hotel Schroeder, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 12, 13, and 14. This society is interested in the further study of photography as applied to the biologic sciences, and the improvement of its technique. Scientific photographers from all parts of the country will meet to exchange ideas and information on still and motion picture photography as well as the latest developments in color work.

The membership of the Biological Photographic Association is composed of professional clinical and biologic photographers as well as physicians, dentists, and scientists who are interested in this specialized branch of photography.

In view of the growing interest in medical and biologic photography the next annual meeting promises to be especially stimulating and successful. Anyone interested in this subject is welcome to attend the meetings and to submit prints for the salon.

Further information concerning the convention program, salon specifications, and membership in the society may be had by writing to the Secretary of the Biological Photographic Association, University Office, Magee Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Civil Service Commission to Fill Medical Officer Position.

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced an open competitive examination to fill the position of chief of the medical division of the Civil Service Commission. Should vacancies occur in positions requiring similar qualifications in other Government agencies, they may also be filled from this examination. The salary of the position is \$6,500 a year, less a retirement deduction of 3½ per cent.

Because of the urgent need for filling the position, the examination will be open for a two-week period only. Applications must be filed with the Commission's Washington office not later than July 8 if received from states east of Colorado, and not later than July 11, 1940, if received from Colorado and states westward.

Applicants must have been graduated with an M.D. degree from a medical school of recognized standing; or must be licentiates of the National Board of Medical Examiners. In addition they must have had certain highly responsible professional experience in the field of medicine, partly in a managerial or supervisory capacity. Applicants obtaining the highest ratings may also be requested to appear for an oral examination.

Full information regarding the examination, and the application form, may be obtained from the Secretary, Board of United States Civil Service Examiners at any first- or second-class post office, or from the Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

American Congress of Physical Therapy.—The nineteenth annual scientific and clinical session of the American Congress of Physical Therapy will be held on September 2 to 6, inclusive, at Hotel Statler, Cleveland, Ohio. This year there will be a departure from the usual arrangements in that the mornings will be devoted to an instructional seminar with the scientific program presented afternoons and evenings. This enables physicians to economize on time by attending both the instruction course and the annual convention during the same week. The entire instruction schedule is elective in character. Registrants may pursue only the individual courses they desire. The complete course consists of twelve lectures from a diversified list of forty-eight. The scientific program itself consists of papers, demonstrations, and motion pictures, covering every branch of physical therapy. There will be a separate scientific program, covering eye, ear, nose, and throat subjects. Write for schedule, fees, etc., to the American Congress of Physical Therapy, 30 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Film: "Choose to Live."—Officers of the Federal Security Agency and other governmental departments, and officials of District of Columbia governmental and voluntary health and welfare agencies were recently invited to preview a new documentary sound film, "Choose to Live," produced by the United States Public Health Service and the American Society for the Control of Cancer to aid in the campaign against cancer.

Preview screenings were held on Wednesday morning, April 17, in the auditorium of the United States Public Health Service, Nineteenth Street and Constitution Avenue, at 11:30 o'clock, and at Wilson Hall, National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, at 3:30 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, April 18.

Specially prepared for lay audiences, the picture tells the story of one woman's encounter with cancer and presents a background of educational information on the subject.

"Choose to Live" has been produced by skilled technicians. The actors in it are professionals, the laboratory and hospital scenes were taken with scrupulous attention to medical accuracy at Memorial Hospital, New York, Marine Hospital, Baltimore, and the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland. The music score by members of the NBC symphony orchestra is an original arrangement by James C. Bradford. The musical background, the moving narrative, the human story, and the documentary pictures in hospitals and laboratories combine to give the picture unusual interest.

Press Clippings.—Some news items from the daily press on matters related to medical practice follow:

Medical Profession Plans to Push Fight

Determined Against Submitting to Federal Control of Medicine

New York, June 10 (AP).—American physicians today renewed their opposition to Federally controlled medicine and at the same time offered their complete cooperation to the government in the event of a war emergency.

In addresses before the house of delegates of the American Medical Association at the opening meeting of the annual convention the principal officers of the organization declared on one hand that the members were willing to devote their entire efforts to wartime service if necessary and on the other that they will not submit to peacetime control of private medical services.

Readiness Told

In a resolution presented before the opening meeting, the doctors declared in effect that "M" day—mobilization day for the armed forces—would also be "medical day" for the doctors of the country because they were already prepared to take care of the medical needs of both the Army and the civilian population.

Immediately after the resolution was introduced—approval was certain—Colonel George C. Dunham of Wash-

ington, assistant to the United States Army Surgeon-General, presented a resolution asking the cooperation of the association and its State and local societies in organizing a medical "column" prepared to heal the wounds and diseases of war.

Shortly before these actions, Dr. Arthur W. Booth, chairman of the board, reported that officials of the association, the District of Columbia Medical Society, the Harris County (Texas) Medical Society and the Washington (D. C.) Academy of Medicine would plead innocent before the District Court of the District of Columbia Friday to charges of conspiracy to violate the Sherman antitrust law.

At least five of the physicians present at today's meeting are under indictment in the case.

Dr. Nathan B. Van Etten of New York, incoming president, added the association "stands ready to cooperate to the limit of its ability in all measures of national defense."

Dangers Cited

He added, however, that while "love of country is a noble passion," it is necessary that medical men preserve "our patriotic ideals for the health and happiness of our people." It is necessary, even while engaged in a national emergency, to not "lose sight of the dangers to medical practice through concentrations of Federal authority" in regulating the practice of medicine.

Dr. Van Etten declared he approved the proposal of President Roosevelt to spend \$10,000,000 in the establishment of fifty small hospitals in needy areas throughout the country "where the need for them can be proved."

Need of Today

The need today, he said, is for "clean, warm places for the care of the acutely sick by competent personnel," workshops for adequately trained physicians and enough ambulances to carry chronically ill patients to large medical centers.—Los Angeles Times, June 10.

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Olson Ousts Dickie, Los Angeles Doctor Gets Job

After sixteen years' service as State Director of Public Health under five governors, Dr. Walter M. Dickie was ousted from the post yesterday by Governor Olson, who appointed Dr. Bertram P. Brown, Hollywood physician, to succeed him.

Some months ago the governor indicated that he intended to replace Dickie, whose reputation as a health officer is nationwide. This drew the fire of Dr. Howard Morrow of San Francisco, who declared that the California Medical Association strongly favored the retention of Doctor Dickie.

Doctor Brown came to this city in 1920 to establish practice. He is a native of Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1892.—Los Angeles Examiner, May 28.

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Doctor Bennett to Build Morale

Takes Over Post as General Hospital Director

Dr. Edwin S. Bennett, medical director for the last four and one-half years of the county's Olive View Tuberculosis Sanitarium at San Fernando, today took over his new job of superintendent of Los Angeles County General Hospital, declaring he was ready to assume immediately full responsibility for the institution's operation.

He said he was "convinced there is no basic trouble at General Hospital," the massive \$16,000,000 institution whose management has been the center of stormy controversy for many months.

To Build Morale

"The problem has been, as I see it," he said, "a lack of coordination and employee morale. I think that it can be corrected by giving the employees realization that someone will be there who is ready to take all responsibility for the hospital's administration."

"There will be mistakes, naturally, but I hope they will be few. I have no preconceived ideas on what my general administrative policy will be."

Doctor Bennett was appointed to the \$9,000-a-year post at the head of the largest acute disease hospital in the world by Rex Thomson, county superintendent of charities.

Doctor Bennett's new post recently was created by the Board of Supervisors to replace that of executive director, from which Everett J. Gray was retired by the board six months ago amid charges of "turmoil" at the institution and complaints about administration.—Los Angeles Evening Herald, June 6.

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Doctors Appointed to State Posts

Angelino and Monrovia Named to Health Board

Governor Olson yesterday appointed two to the State Board of Health, Dr. Francis Marion Pottenger of Monrovia and Dr. Elmer Belt of Los Angeles. . . .—Los Angeles Times, June 22.